

Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office Of The Governor

WHEREAS, President Ronald Reagan has declared the week of April 7-23 to be National Victims' Rights Week; and,

WHEREAS, thirty-four million Americans become victims of crime each year, and six million innocent citizens become victimized by violence; and,

WHEREAS, The U. S. Department of Justice estimates that one out of four American families will be touched by crime this year alone; and,

WHEREAS, It is estimated that less than 30 percent of crime victims report their tragedies to the authorities; and,

WHEREAS, The cost of violent crime to victims exceeds \$12 billion annually; and,

WHEREAS, About 18 percent of South Dakota's population has been, or will be, victimized by crime each year; and,

WHEREAS, The public and private sectors of South Dakota must join together with our state and local governments to address the crisis of violent crime and promote greatly needed services to innocent victims of crime; and,

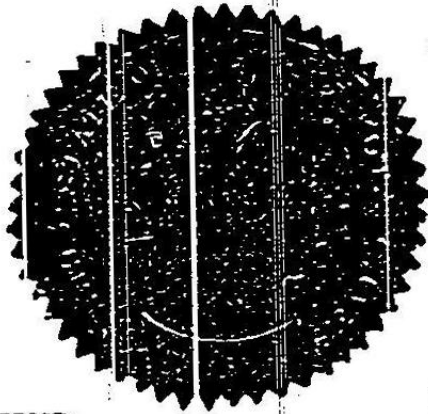
WHEREAS, The citizens of South Dakota must implement programs and services to provide violent crime victims with comprehensive services, including counseling, guidance through our criminal justice system, and restitution similar to those services offered in Brown, Beadle, Davison, Minnehaha, Pennington, and Lawrence Counties; and,

WHEREAS, The Victim/Witness Subcommittee of the Law Enforcement Coordinating Committee, along with 5,000 state and local victim advocacy organizations nationwide, will promote greater public awareness about the rights and needs of crime victims during National Victims' Rights Week;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GEORGE S. MICKELSON, Governor of the State of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim the week of April 17 through 23, 1988, as

VICTIMS' RIGHTS WEEK

in South Dakota. Also, let it be known that Attorney General Roger Tellinghuisen and U. S. Attorney Phillip N. Hogen reaffirm their commitment to address victims' rights and criminal justice issues during National Victims' Rights Week and throughout the year.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Fourteenth Day of March, in the Year of Our Lord, Nineteen Hundred and Eighty-Eight


GEORGE S. MICKELSON, GOVERNOR

ATTEST:


JOYCE HAZELTINE, SECRETARY OF STATE